foreign collaboration approvals year-wise is as under:—

1985	1024
1986	957
1987	853

During 1988 (Upto September, 1988), Government have approved 642 foreign collaboration proposals.

(d) The Government's basic policy towards foreign collaborations is selective. Foreign collaboration is ordinarily permitted in high technology areas, in export oriented or import substitution manufacture or for enabling indigenous industry to upgrade its existing technology to attain efficiency and competitive strength. Government have also laid emphasis on the need to ensure efficient absorption and adaptation of the imported technology through adequate investment in research, engineering and development.

Waiting list for LPG connections in Andhra Pradesh

2918. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how many registrants are on the waiting list in Andhra Pradesh for the L.P.G. connections; and

(b) by when they are likely to be provided with L.P.G. connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) As on the 1st October, 1988 there were about 78,000 persons on the waiting list for L.P.G. connections in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Release of new L.P.G. connections is done by the oil industry all over the country, including in Andhra Pradesh, in phased manner under its annual programme for enrolment of customers, subject to augmentation in availability of L.P.G.

टेलीफोन सलाहकार समितियों की बैठकें

2919. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय:** क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को ऐसी कोई मांग प्राप्त हुई है जिसमें टेलीफोन सलाहकार समितियों की एक वर्ष में कम से कम चार बैठकें करने के लिये कहा गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरिधर गोमांगो): (क) जी हां।

(ख) सरकारी व्यय में मितव्ययी उपाय अपनाने के उद्देश्य से मई, 1988 में सभी दूरसंचार टेलीफोन सलाहकार समितियों की छः महीने में एक बैठक बुलाने का निर्णय लिया गया। तथापि, स्थिति की पुनरीक्षा की गई और अगस्त, 1988 में ये बैठकें तीन महीने में एक बार बुलाने का निर्णय लिया गया।

इलाहाबाद में सार्वजनिक दूरभाष केन्द्र

2920. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय:** क्या **संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इलाहाबाद जिले में नगर निगम के क्षेत्र के अन्दर तथा बाहर अलग अलग कुल कितने सार्वजनिक दूरभाष केन्द्र हैं;

(ख) 1986-87 और 1987-88 के वर्षों में तथा चालू वर्ष के दौरान अब तक कुल कितने नये सार्वजनिक दूरभाष केन्द्र कहां-कहां खोले गये हैं; और

(ग) इलाहाबाद में निकट भविष्य में नये सार्वजनिक दूरभाष केन्द्र कहां-कहां स्थापित किये जाने की संभावना है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरिधर गोमांगो): (क) इलाहाबाद में 152 सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन हैं, ये सभी नगर निगम के अन्तर्गत आते है।

(ख) नए खोले गए सार्वजनिक टेलीफोनों की संख्या नीचे दी गई है :–

1986-87	16
1987-88	11
चालू वर्ष के दौरान	2

सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन 12/16, मयर रोड, इलाहाबाद और 591, मुमफोर्ड गंज, इलाहाबाद में खोले गए हैं।

(ग) निम्नलिखित स्थानों पर 4 नए सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन खोलने का प्रस्ताव बनाया गया है :–

1. तारागंज रेलवे स्टेशन
2. प्रयाग घाट रेलवे स्टेशन
3. प्रयाग रेलवे स्टेशन, और
4. सूबेदारगंज रेलवे स्टेशन।

Import of oil rigs

2921. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been importing oil rigs from foreign countries;

(b) if so, what are the details of such imports for the last three years; and

(c) what steps have been taken to manufacture of oil rigs indigenously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ONGC have imported 13 land rigs from companies in USA, USSR and Romania during the last three years.

(c) Facilities for manufacturing land rigs have been developed at BHEL, Hyderabad and for offshore rigs at Mazagon Docks Ltd., Bombay and Hindustan Shipyards Ltd., Vizag.

Diversification in Business by the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company

2922. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company is trying to close its main and original business of small savings and diversify into various fields in the name of efficient management;

(b) if so, what are the fields in which the company is trying to make a dent;

(c) whether the company has sought permission from the Government to do so and whether the permission has been granted; and

(d) whether Government are aware that the company has neither the experience nor the expertise to start a venture in new areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Indo-Soviet Joint venture to manufacture automobiles

2923. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indo-Soviet joint venture is proposed to be set up in India to manufacture automobiles and for developing transport facilities; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?